

## Message Text

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54

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CPR-01 A-01 OPR-02

CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 INRE-00 USIE-00 AID-05 IGA-01 IO-10

PER-01 SY-05 /087 W

----- 062105

O 251120Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4054

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL UDORN

CDR USSAG NKP

MACTHAI J-3 BANGKOK THAI

DIA WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCPAISLT

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 3714

JAKARTA FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS PFOR US LA

SUBJECT: SITUATION IN LAOS MAY 24, 1975

REF: VIENTIANE 3685

1. PROBLEMS AT WATTAY AIRPORT: LAO PATRIOTIC FRONT (LPF)  
AND VIENTIANE SIDE (VS) SECURITY FORCES AT THE CONTINENTAL  
AIR SERPIES, I.C. (CASI) RAMP AT WATTAY AIRPORT CAUSED  
GREATER DIFFICULTIES TODAY THAN PREVIOUSLY AS AMERICAN  
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DEPENDENTS ARRIVED TO BOARD AN ATTACHE AIRCRAFT FOR BANGKOK.

LPF GUARD INSISTED ON SEEING DIPLOMATIC IDENTITY CARD  
OF ONE EMBOFF, AND LPF AND VS GUARDS DISPLAYED HOSTILITY

TOWARDS THE AMERICANS (MOSTLY DEPENDENTS) ON THE  
SCENE. IN AT LEAST ONE INSTANCE GUARDS REQUIRED THAT  
TRUNK OF CAR WITH DIPLOMATIC PLATES BE OPENED, BUT THEY  
DID NOT ATTEMPT TO SEARCH LUGGAGE INSIDE.

2. SITUATION WORSENERD JUST AFTER ABOVE-MENTIONED AIRCRAFT  
TOOK OFF WHEN BUSLOAD OF LPF AND STUDENTS ARRIVED AT  
CASI RAMP BRINGING "SECURITY FORCE" TO TOTAL OF FIVE  
LPF, TWO VS, AND SEVEN OR EIGHT STUDENTS. THIS GROUP AT  
APPROXIMATELY 1130 HOURS SEIZED THREE DAO VEHICLES  
WITH "AIT" PLATES. VEHICLES REMAIN IN STUDENTS' CUSTODY,  
ALTHOUGH DAO OFFICERS HAVE THE KEYS. OCCUPANTS OF VEHICLES  
WERE NOT DETAINED OR HARASSED. IN "EXPLAINING" THEIR  
ACTIONS TO DAO REPS, PERPETRATORS SPOKE IN TERMS OF  
"POWER TO THE PEOPLE"; THEY CLAIMED THAT U.S. HAD BEEN  
DEFEATED IN INDOCHINA AND ALLEGED THAT ALL VEHICLES WITH  
AIT -- AS OPPOSED TO CD OR IT -- LICENSE PLATES BELONG  
TO LAO GOVERNMENT.

3. IN OTHER INCIDENTS, A CASI C-46 WAS DELAYED WHEN  
STUDENT GROUP FORCED THE CREW TO OFFLOAD ONE CRATE  
BEFORE PERMITTING PLANE TO TAKE OFF. MISSION COMMENCED  
AIR SHIPMENT OF CRATED HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS, DELIVERING  
SOME TO WATTAY ON TRUCKS WITH DIPLOMATIC PLATES BORROWED  
FROM BRITISH AND AUSTRALIAN EMBASSIES TO AVOID FURTHER  
PROBLEMS OF TYPE DESCRIBED ABOVE OVER AIT PLATES. THIS  
OPERATION WENT WELL THROUGH MOST OF AFTERNOON BUT STRUCK  
SNAG WHEN LPF AND/OR STUDENTS OBJECTED AND INSISTED ON  
OPENING ONE CRATE. CHARGE CALLED LPF JCCIA DELEGATION  
CHAIRMAN SOTH PHETRASY WHO PROMISED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVE  
TO THE SCENE. (STATUS NOT CLEAR AT THIS TIME.)

4. DEPARTURE OF MISSION PERSONNEL AND DEPENDENTS,  
NEGOTIATIONS OPE#  
SEVERANCE PAY FOR TAPS GUARDS, AND  
POSSIBLE RESOLUTION OF NA HAI DIAO (USAID/DAO) COMPOUND  
SITUATION BEING TREATED SEPTELS. THERE WERE NO NOTE-  
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WORTHY CHANGES IN PREVIOUSLY REPORTED SITUATIONS AT  
KM 6 RESIDENTIAL AREA OR AT PARIOUS USAID QQWA  
EHTUSES.#

25. ATHTSPHEREWI#OTHERWISE, VIENTIANE HAD DECEPTIVELY  
QUIET SUNDAY LOOK. HOWEVER, HARASSMENT OF AMERICANS --  
CLEARLY CONDONED BY PGNU -- IS BECOMING MORE COMMON

AND WIDESPREAD. PEOPLE IN THE STREET SHOUT "GO HOME"  
IN ENGLISH AND LAO AS AMERICANS PASS BY; OLD FRIENDS  
SHUN CONTACT WITH EMBOFFS; LAO EMPLOYEES OF THE MISSION  
ARE COMING UNDER INCREASING PRESSURE FROM THEIR PEERS;  
AND EVEN DOMESTIC SERVANTS WORKING FOR AMERICANS HAVE  
RECEIVED THREATS. ALL OF THESE FACTORS HAVE CON-  
TRIBUTED TO A HEIGHTENED SENSE OF TENSION  
THROUGHOUT THE CITY.  
CHAPMAN

NOTE BY OCT: #TEXT AS RECEIVED.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, HARASSMENT, PERSONNEL TRAVEL, POLITICAL SITUATION, DEPENDENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975VIENTI03714  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750184-0101  
**From:** VIENTIANE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750518/aaaaapyp.tel  
**Line Count:** 126  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 VIENTIANE 3685  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <22 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SITUATION IN LAOS MAY 24, 1975  
**TAGS:** PINT, PINS, PFOR, US, LA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006